

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

16 August 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Associate General Counsel

25X

SUBJECT: GSA Paper, "Access to National Security Information and Material for Unofficial Historical Research"

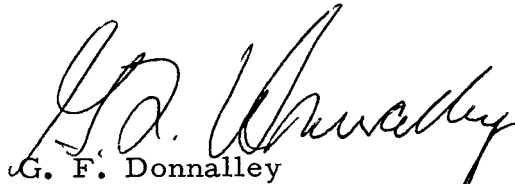
1. The subject proposal is scheduled for ICRC discussion at the September meeting. Mr. Dave Young has requested an agency reaction by 16 August 1972.
2. Generally, concern has been expressed within the Directorates that the proposal does not provide sufficient protection to classified information. It is true that there is a requirement that the researcher's notes be reviewed and that any proposed publications be reviewed by the agency concerned. None the less, an individual with exposure to classified material can gain classified information which is not reflected in his notes. For this reason, I would suspect that we generally would be unsympathetic to the cause of historical research -- at least to the idea of giving relatively free access to classified papers.
3. There are five specific proposals:
 - A. Standard Application Form. The general feeling is that the idea of a standard form is impeccable. We do have troubles with the type of information requested and the lack of information in some areas. For example, item 14 of the form asks the researcher to list his typists and assistants. We would need full biographic data on any individual having access to the classified information.

B. Standard Security Clearance. Again, this is motherhood, but we would want, at the least, to retain the option for the Agency to run its own clearance. Thus, while we agree with a standard interagency clearance in theory we are opposed to it in practice.

C. Action on Application for Access to Classified Records for Historical Research Purposes. This is a proposed two-step action. The first step is approval of the research subject and the second is granting of the clearance to the individual researcher. Generally speaking, we have no problems with the intent but are troubled by the general caveat stipulated in ^{my} paragraph 2.

D. Format for Research Notes. Generally, no comment. The DD/I review prefers letting each researcher take notes as he desires, and the others did not comment.

E. Instructional Pamphlet for Researchers Requesting Access to Classified Records for Historical Research Purposes. The Directorates generally did not comment on this or thought it might be marginally useful. As we discussed, our basic thrust is to protect classified information. For this reason, we would not be desirous of encouraging historical research and would tend to oppose such instructional pamphlet.



G. F. Donnalley
Special Assistant for Information Control

18 August 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. David R. Young
The White House

SUBJECT : GSA Paper, "Access to National Security
Information and Material for Unofficial
Historical Research"


1. We have reviewed the GSA submission of 2 August to the Committee concerning access to national security information and material for unofficial historical research. Essentially, our position is that we have no objection to the idea of a government-wide procedure and standard forms. Our experience has been that historical requests have been so few that we would doubt that a uniform procedure and standard forms would facilitate CIA actions on these matters, nor would they greatly facilitate the work of the historical researchers who address requests to this Agency. It may be, of course, that under the new Order and Directive more requests will be forthcoming.

2. There are three items for specific comment.

a. This Agency would want to conduct its own security clearances rather than accept clearances granted by another agency.

b. We would want some more information than that required by the form which is Enclosure II to the GSA submission. In particular, we would need more than the names of the researchers, typists and other assistants, the purpose being to facilitate clearance of those personnel also.

c. Since the publication of an instructional pamphlet for researchers would tend to encourage the submission of research applications, our preference would be not to have such a publication.



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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Original - Addressee

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Associate General Counsel

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